I fear I cannot afford to purchase Fendler's Rubiaceae or any plants but Leguminosae - Let me know the amount of his plants of that family you have got for me & I will credit you for it in your account - I have now against you only the present vol of Linn. Journ. & Spruce's Tarapoto plants. I shall distribute more in spring,

91 Victoria Street S W
Dec 25 1859

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My dear Gray

We returned from our Continental trip the last days of November having much enjoyed a visit to the Pyrenees where we spent nearly three months of the hottest weather and as soon as it cooled a little, proceeded into Spain where we made a seven weeks tour. Entering from Perpignan we visited Barcelona, Valentia, Madrid Toledo Cordova, Sevilla Cadiz Gibraltar, Malaga, Grenada and Alicante returning by Barcelona and Marseilles. Travelling in ~~this~~ Spain is fatiguing for ladies and the country is in general bare and treeless but there is much of interest in the towns and there is great evidence of progress and activity in the larger towns and in the railroads and high roads which they are at ~~pres~~ last rapidly proceeding with. If indeed they do not experience too severe a check by this Moorish war which threw the whole of Spain into such a state of excitement the last weeks that we were in the country, they will in a very few years have advanced much in the career of civilization. Botany I found there at a very low ebb - the splendid herbaria and drawings of South American plants they possess at Madrid are never looked into from years end to years end and their botanical gardens, with the greatest natural advantages are among the poorest in Europe. They have however some naturalists of considerable ability. Dr Graells who is at the head of Natural history at Madrid is a very well informed gentlemanly person, so is Prof Colmeiro. Both have published various pamphlets on Spanish plants and from Colmeiro we have a *Catalogue raisonné* of all botanical works and memoirs written by Spanish or Portuguese botanists or relating to the botany of the Peninsula followed by biographical sketches of all Peninsular botanists - which is well done and evinces great research altho much that is manuscript or insignificant is brought in to swell the list. Profr Cutanda who has the charge of the herbaria at the botanic garden is about to publish a flora of the districts of Madrid - Profr Costa at Barcelona has published a classbook with an appendix describing some Catalonian plants and here and there a few notices of Spanish species may occasionally appear - but that appears to be the sum total of the Spanish botanical literature of the present day

I found a letter from you on my return and thank you for it - I leave you to do what you think best with my revision of the Hong Kong Flora and begin printing whenever it suits your convenience. I have revised the Ventilagos in which Tulasne has certainly made far too many species from imperfect specimens. He has however fixed on the right one to retain Gaertner's name which I had misapplied to Roxburgh's plant and I have rewritten my observations on the other side of this sheet begging you to substitute them in their proper place. I am now going on with the Revision but slowly as I have many other things to do - I am in Rubiaceae and thank you for your notes from your "Proceedings" I know not what to say about Hedyotis Anotis may perhaps very well go with Houstonia as a ~~distinct~~ genus - but I think Dimetia & Macrandria must follow Diplophragma into whatever group they are put. They are all evidently septicidal although some split across at the top as well and run very much one into the other in habit. I think also they are nearer to true ~~Houstonia~~ Hedyotis than to the Anotis-Houstonia-Oldenlandia set.

As you say my Revision is only to be published when complete the short Introductory Notice I gave must be replaced by another which I cannot write till I have gone through the whole Flora - Has Col. Munro sent you the enumeration of his ~~gra~~ Hong Kong grasses & characters for the new ones? if so I should like to have it as soon as printed in order that I may quote it as I like to go over everything myself in order to give unity of plan to the Revision. By the bye I have no complete copy of what I sent you and have lost the memorandum of the figure at which I left off - so will you when you write tell me what was the number of the last species - and when you begin printing let me have a sheet by post? I suppose it would be too expensive and troublesome to send proofs for correction for I believe the bookpost does not allow of any written marks

Yours very sincerely
George Bentham